

PRESS RELEASE

**Justification for Greek creators: The Special Service of Emergency Rights Management launches its operation**

*Athens, 29 June 2018.* The Special Service of Emergency Rights Management, which currently represents over 14.500 Greek authors and songwriters, rights holders, multinational and Greek music publishers and the large majority of the foreign Collective Management Organizations, is pleased to announce the launching of its operation, situated in the previous Greek CMO AEPI's premises, at 53, Samou str., in Maroussi.

Since its establishment, in early June 2018, the Special Service of Emergency Rights Management has taken co-ordinated actions achieving results that ensure a new and hopeful era for all rights holders.

Special Service begins its operation **right away**, in a familiar building, already equipped with all necessary infrastructures (electronic and hard data as well as information systems) and its immediate goal is the distribution of royalties to its members. The agreement between the Special Service and AEPI's owners **does not include any transfer of their debts to the detriment of the rights holders.**

The critical issue of **Greek repertoire data and documentation** has been successfully solved by achieving immediate access to all digitized and natural archives. This is an important step towards the full control of Greek authors' repertoire, which is necessary to the proper licensing and collection procedures.

The Special Service has decided to employ **specialized, experienced and already trained personnel** from the collective management market, a large number of which will originate from AEPI's former employees.

The immediate actions of the Special Service include:

- **A General Assembly** meeting of the Members in September, in order to elect a **Supervisory Board**. Thus, the rights holders will decide on the matters of their own Organization, from the very beginning.
- **Royalties' distribution**, which will take place as soon as possible, following the General Assembly decisions.

- **Meeting with CISAC** top executives in the next few days, in the framework of a constructive cooperation and knowhow exchange, for the effective protection of Greek and international repertoire and the fair distribution rules for all. It goes without saying that the Special Service will follow all international rules and regulations and to that end all information systems will be modernized and certified accordingly.
- A close collaboration with **international and Greek music publishers** will be actively sought, ensuring that they will be represented in the Supervisory Board with 1/3 of its seats.
- Special Service establishes a close **communication with all foreign CMOs**, in order to ensure that they are properly informed on the current developments.

It is obvious that the brief transitional period of the Special Service is extremely decisive, in order to ensure the building of a new infrastructure that will be transferred to a new large CMO owned and controlled by its members.

**WE CALL all Greek authors and rights holders and all foreign CMOs to join the Special Service's effort towards the integration of the Greek and international repertoire in order to avoid fragmentation of the market to their detriment.**

All rights holders and interested parties will be soon notified of our new contact details, telephone numbers and email addresses.

**WE ARE TURNING A NEW PAGE IN THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AREA.**

**JOIN US!!!**

**Special Service of Emergency Rights Management**

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